To the Right Honourable Sir Thomas *Heneage knight, one of her Maiesties Honorable priuie* counsell, Vize chamberlen to her Highnesse, and treasurer of her Maiesties chamber, prosperous health, long life, with much encrease of honour.

RIght honourable the late dangerous attempt rashly by mee vndertaken to row in a small Boat to the Cittie of Bristow a long the perillous Rocks Breaches, Rases, Shelues, Quicke-sandes and very vnlikely places for passage wyth such small Boates, along the Coast of England, is now by the assistance of almighty God truely perfourmed, as appeareth by our seuerall certificates ready to bee seene, with our safe returne, contrary to the expectation of sundry persons, which being truely and particularly discourſed: I haue presumed to dedicate vnto your honor: wherein may plainely be seene, how wee aduentured to passe the force of dangerous Flawes and rough Seas, which we found in our voyage: And proueth the attempte the more straunge in respect that I was ne-

The most dangerous and memorable aduenture of *Richard Ferris*, one of the fiue ordinarie Messengers of her Maiesties Chamber, who departed from Tower Wharfe on Midsommer day last past, with Andrew Hill and William Thomas, who vndertooke in a small Wherry Boate, to rowe by Sea to the Citie of Bristowe, and are now safely returned.

Wherein is particularly expressed their perils sustained in the saide voyage, and the great entertainement they had at seuerall places vpon *the coast of England, as they went, but especially* at the said Citie of Bristow.

Published by the Jayd Richard Ferris.

LONDON

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BODLEIANA
BIBLIOTH

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uer trayned vp on the water: not doubting but the same may be a iust occasion to pricke forward other of my natiue cuntrymen to practise an ordinary passage thorough the like dangers in such smal wherry Boates, especially when necessary occasion shall serue, the better to daunt the enemies of this nation, who in such flawes and frets at Sea, dare not hasard their Gallies to go foorth, though they bee of farre greater force to brooke the Seas. Thus humbly desiring your honours fauorable acceptance hereof, I end, beseeching God to send health and long life to her Maiesty my dread Soueraigne and most gracious Mistres, peace to this land, and to your honor euen your hartes desire.

Your honors most humble
to commaund

Richard Ferris.

Richard Ferris his trauailes to Bristowe.

After that I had rashly determined to passe the seas with a Wherry, and to rowe my selfe in the same to the Citie of Bristowe, though with the euill will of sundrie my good friendes, but especially full sore against my aged fathers consent now dwelling in the Citie of Westminster where I was borne, I thought it conuenient to seeke out some one expert pilot to direct me and my companion by his skill, the better to passe the perilles and dangers whereof I was foretold. Whereupon I tooke vnto me one M. Thomas, a man of sufficient skill and approued experience, by whom I was still content to be aduised euen from my first going forth, vntill my last comming home.

The Boate wherein I determined to performe my promise, was new built, which I procured to be painted with greene, & the Oares & sayle of the same colour, with the red Crosse for England and her Maiesties armes with a vane standing fast to the sterne of the sayd Boate, which being in full readinesse vpon Midsommer day last, my selfe with my companions Andrew Hill, & William Thomas, with a great many of our friends and well willers accompanyed vs to the Tower wharfe of London, there wee entred our Boate, and so with a great many of our friends in other like boates rowed to the Court at Greenewitch, where before the Court gate we gaue a volley of shot: then we landed and went into the Court, where we had great entertainement at euery office, and many of our friendes were full sorie for our departing: And hauing obtained leaue before of the Right Honorable the Lord Chamberlaine, the Lord Admirall, and M. vice Chamberlaine, for my departure, I tooke my leaue and so departed, setting vp our sayles, and taking

vs to our Dares, wee departed towarde this our doubtfull course: and first we toke our way to Grauesende, and from thence to these places hereafter mencioned, namely:

To Margat.
To Douer.
To new Hauen in Sussex.
To Portchmouth.
To Sandwitch in Dorcet-shire.
To Abbots Berry.
To Lyme.
To Seaton.
To Tingmouth.
To Dartmouth.
To Sautcombe.
To Plymmoth.
To Lowe in Cornewall.
To S. Pawes in Saunmouth.
To the gret bay at Penlans called Pomise bay.
To S. Ines at the further side of the landes end.
To Padstowe.
To Bottricks Castle, which is in the race of Hartlande alias Hartey-point.
To Clewelley.
To Ilford Comme.
To Wynnet high Cliffes.
And lastly, to the Citie of Bristowe.

At these places before recited we stayed and refreshed our selues, sometime we were constrained to put into these places for want of victuals, sometime for to haue their certificats to testifie of our being there: sometimes we were weather bound, and sundrie accidents worth the noting happened vnto vs in many of these places, and our welcome in all places deserueth due commendations, the particulars whereof hereafter followeth.

After we had passed Grauesend as is aforesayd, we came to the lands end, then we bent our course to Margat, which place hauing passed, we woone the forelande with some high billowes.

From thence to the south forelande, and some after we put in at Douer, where we stayed about vi. houres, and where we were greatly entertayned.

From thence we toke to the Camber nesses, which is betweene Rie and Douer, and so along the mayne Sea to-

wards

wards Hyde Lee. Then we rowed and ſayled along the Coaſt vntill we came to Beachie and paſſing by it we harboured at new Hauen in Suſſex; where we had reaſonable good weather till we came betweene the Ile of Wight and Portchmouth: there we had a great ſtorme, and in ſuch ſort ouerpreſſed with weather, that wee were conſtrayned to make towardes a Caſtle called Hurſt Caſtle, from whence at the fall of winde and tide, we put forth againe to ſea, and recouered to Sandwitch in Dorſetſhire. From thence we paſſed through a race called S. Albons which is a hed land, where we were in a great frett by reaſon of the race and ſo continued hazarding our liues by meanes of that fret, to the great and daungerous race of Portland, where by the good direction of our Pilot and maſter, we fought and ſtroue by great labour to take the aduantage of the tide and weather, whereby we paſſed through it in one houre.

Here did the billowes riſe verie hie, ſo that we were in great daunger, yet God be thanked we eſcaped them without any damnage. From thence we paſſed to Lime bay, where we ſtaied but one night and from thence to Seaton, at which place we were compelled to carrie and lift vp our boate on ſhoare, by extremitie of foule weather, for wee were there in great danger, by reaſon of frets, ſands, and foule weather, which greatly troubled vs.

From thence we went to Tingmoth, and ſo to Dartmoth, there we remained two daies, and had good intertainement, and great courteſie offred vs by the inhabitants thereof. And vppon the next day morning being Sunday, wee put to Sea againe, there hauing a faire winde and tide wee came to the Start, where the winde roſe and beate vs in round about, into a verie dangerous race, (this was on the fifteenth of July) where wee were in ſuch an extremitie, that we had like to haue beene drowned, yet it pleaſed God ſo farre to worke for vs, that we eſcaped the danger thereof, which done, wee went to the weſtward of Salcombe, there wee were conſtrained to hale vppe our

Bote in a coue called Sower Mill, behind a rocke neare to Sir William Courtney, a verie bountiful knight, at whose house wée laie all that night, and would haue had vs to haue staide longer. But from thence hauing faire weather wée came to Plimmoth.

Heere wee mette with her Maiesties shippes, where maister Captaine Fenner and maister Captaine Wilkinson, gaue vs great intertainement, especially for that they saw we had leaue giuen vs from the right Honourable of her Maiesties counsell, for our quiet and safe passage. And for that I was her Maiesties messenger, they gaue vs the greater intertainement, and staide there one night, from thence we went to Lowe, and there staide one night, from thence to Sainte Mawes, with verie calme and good weather, vntil wee came to the Lizard, being a place well knowen to be most dangerous and full of rockes and rases, where God be thanked we passed in the currant of the tide, with great swiftnes, but with wonderfull danger, where had it not beene well looked vnto of the maister wée had all beene cast away.

Then we did cutte ouer the Mouse bay to Mouthole which is foure myles beyond the mount, where we were constrained for want of necessarie victuals to come backe againe to Pensance, where we lodged all night.

The next morning, we set out to goe for the landes end, where setting from Pensans with our halfe tyde, to recouer the first of the tyde at the lands end, we being in our Boate a great way from the shore, our maister descryed a Pyrate, hauing a vessel of foure tunne, who made towards vs amaine, meaning doubtles to haue robbed vs, but doubting such a matter, we rowed so neare the shoare as wee might: and by that time as he was almost come at vs, we were neare to a rocke standing in the sea, where this Pyrate thought to haue taken vs at an aduantage: for being come close to the out side of the saide rocke, called Raynalde stones, he was becalmed & could make no way, and so were

we. But God who neuer faileth thoſe that put their truſt in him, ſent vs a comfort vnlooked for: for as we rowed to come about by this rocke, ſuddenly we eſpyed a plaine and verie eaſie way for vs to paſſe on the inner ſide of the ſaide rocke, where we went through very pleaſantly, and by reaſon thereof he could not follow vs: thus we eſcaped ſafely, but he was ſome after taken and brought in at Briſtow. Here we found great breaches, races and rocks, the winde then being Northerly and altogether againſt vs, which was wonderfull painefull, troubleſome, and daungerous to vs, neuertheleſſe (God be thanked) we eſcaped in ſafetie, and recouered to Saint Iues, where we were well entertained. The next day we put to ſea againe, but being within fiue myles of Saint Iues, we were conſtrained to ſeeke for a Coue, which we found called Saint Dryuey in Cornwale.

Here, for that we wanted victualles, our maiſter was conſtrained to goe climbe the great Cliffe at Godrydey which is at the leaſt fortie fatham hye, and wonderfull ſteepe, which none of vs durſt venture to doe, and (God be bleſſed for it) he had no harme at all, but ſurely to all likelyhodes, had his foote once ſlipped, there could haue beene no recouery to haue ſaued him, but that he would haue beene bruſed in peeces.

At this place we ſtayed two dayes at maiſter Aroudalles houſe, where we were greatly welcome, and from thence we went to Bottricks Caſtell, where dwelleth a gentleman called maiſter Hynder, there we were wether bound, and conſtrained to ſtay full ſeuentéene dayes, where we had great entertainement, he himſelfe offering vs, if we would ſtay a whole yeare, wee ſhould be welcome, and the rather for that I was one of her Maieſties ſeruants. But vpon the eightéenth day, the foule wether ſeaſing we did againe put to the ſea through the race of Hartland, alias Hartipointe, which is as ill as the race of Portlande, which wee eſcaped and recouered to Cleueley,

where wee were entertained by a very courteous gentleman called maister Carey. And from thence wee came to Alforde Coume, which was on Saterday at night the first of August last past, whereupon for that wee were so neare Bristow, I desired my company that wee might put to sea that night, which they were loth to doe, yet at my importunate sute they graunted thereto. But being at sea, the winde arose very fore from of the land, which put vs all in great feare, whereby I my selfe was constrained to rowe foure houres alone on the Larboorde side, and my fellowe Rower was compelled to lade forth water so fast as it came into the Boate, which did beate vpon me and ouer me, very fore, the winde then being East and by South. Thus I was constrained to labour for life, and yet had almost killed my selfe through the heate I toke in that time, rowing as is aforesaide, vntill we came to Pynette.

This done, we went from Pynette, and so betweene the two homes came to Bristow in one tyde, and arriued at the backe of Bristow, about fiue of the clocke at night.

But it was wonderfull to see and heare what reioyeing there was on all sides at our coming: The Maior of Bristow, with his bretheren the Aldermen, came to the water side, and welcomed vs most louingly, and the people came in great multitudes to see vs, in so much as by the consent of the Magistrates, they toke our Boate from vs, not suffering vs once to meddle with it, in respect that we were all extreame wearie, and carried our saide Boate to the high Crosse, in the Citie, from thence it was conuaied to the towne house, there locked safe all night. And on the next morning the people of the Citie gathered them selues together, & had prepared Trumpets, Drummes, Fyfes, & Ensignes to go before the Boate, which was carried vpon mens shoulders round about the Citie, with the Waites of the saide Citie, playing orderly in honour of our rare and daungerous attempt atchiued. Afterwardes we were had

to

to maiſter Maiors, to the Aldermen and Sheriffes houſes, where we were feaſted moſt royally and ſpared for no coſt all the time that we remained there. Thus hauing a while refreſhed our ſelues after our ſo tedious labours, we came to London on Saterday being the eight of Auguſt. 1590. where to ſpeake truth without diſſembling, our entertainement at our coming was great and honourable, eſpecially at the Court, and in the Cities of London and Weſtminſter, and generally I found that the people greatly reioyced to ſée vs in all places.

To conclude, I haue giuen order that the ſaide Boate ſhal be brought by land from Briſtow to London, where the watermen & ſundry other haue promiſed to grace the ſaide Boate with great melodie, and ſundry volleyes of ſhot, which very ſhortly is entended to be performed.

Here is to be remembred, that betwéene Hartie-point and Cleuelly, the winde being verie ſtrong, my companion and déare fellow Andrew Hill in taking downe our ſayle, fell ouer bord into the ſea, where by great good happe, and by meanes that he helde faſt to a péece of our ſayle, we recouered him and got him vp againe (although he were a verie waighty man) which if we had not done I could not haue gotten any man to haue ſupplyed his roome: but when we ſawe that he was amended, we gaue God thankes for his recouerie.

Thus to God I with my fellow mates, giue moſt hartie prayers and thankes for our ſafe deliuerance from ſo imminent daungers as we haue béene in ſince our departure from the Court at Greénewitch, being ſtill defended by the mightie and handie worke of Almightie God, to whom we in all obedience and duetie daily pray for the proſperous health of her Maieſtie, and her honourable Councell, whoſe liues and welfare is the ſtrength and maintenance of this land, and whom Almightie God, proſper and preſerue now and euer. Amen.

FINIS. Richard Ferres.

A new Sonnet made vppon the arriuall and braue entertainement of Richard Ferris with his boat, who arriued at the Citie of Bristowe on the third day of August. 1590.

COme olde and young behold and beWe,
A thing most rare is to be seene,
A seely Wherry it is most true:
Is come to Towne with sayle of greene.
With Dares cullour of the same,
To happy Ferris worthy fame.

From London Citie this wager sure,
Was for to bring his Wherry small,
On surging seas if life endure:
From Port to Port happe what happe shall.
To Bristowe Citie of worthie name,
Where Ferris now hath spred his fame.

His Boate not bulgd, but at high crosse,
Was seene the third of August sure,
Whereby the man hath had no losse:
But did ech willing heart procure,
For to be readie there in haste,
To see the Boate that there was plaste.

Oh mightie Ioue thou guide of guides,
Which brought this Boat from surging seas,
Cleane from the rage of furious tides,
No doubt Ferris God thou didst please,
Both thou and thine which were with thée,
Pou serued God he set you frée.

God

God Andrew Hill thy paines was great,
And William Thomas in this Wherry,
And honour Ferris sure doth get,
Ye doubtlesse meanes to make you merry.
Your fame is such through trauailes toyle,
You winne the spurre within our soyle.

Shall I preferre this to your skill,
No no twas God that did you guide,
For this be sure without his will,
You could not passe each bitter tide.
But pray you did no doubt each houre,
Whereby God blest you by his power.

Oh gallant mindes and venturous bold,
That toke in hand a thing most rare,
Twill make the Spaniardes harts ware cold,
If that this newes to them prepare,
That three men hath this voyage done,
And thereby wagers great hath wonne.

But now we may behold and bewe,
That English heartes are not afrayde,
Their Soueraignes foes for to subdue,
No tempest can make vs dismayde.
Let monsterous Papists spit their fill,
Their force is full against Gods will.

Hath séely Wherry done the deede,
That Gallyes great dare not to trye,
And hath she had such happy speede,
That now in rest on shoare she lye,
Doubtlesse the Lord her Pylot was,
It could not else beene brought to passe.

Well

Well Ferris now the game is thine,
No losse thou hast thanke him above,
From thy two Mates doe not decline,
But still in heart doe thou them loue.
So shall thy state increase no doubt,
Through him that brought thy boat about.

I end with prayers to the Lord,
To saue and keepe our royall Queene,
Let all true hearts with one accord,
Say Lord preserue her grace from teene,
Blesse Lord her friendes, confound her foes,
For aye Lord saue our Royall Rose.

FINIS. Iames Sargent.

Dang: trauils of Rich: West

d d b daung.

Terris.